

Western Canada  
**I H C**  
Chapter 38

Western Canada IHC  
Collectors Chapter 38  
Newsletter for Members

# Chapter 38 IH Legends

## Newsletter



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### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

• *MEETING MINUTES*

• *MEMBERSHIP NEWS and TIME TO RENEW MEMBERSHIP FORM*

• *EDITOR'S MESSAGE*

• *NEW ARTICLE - DEALERSHIPS OF THE PAST*

**WEBSITE: [www.ihc38.com](http://www.ihc38.com)**

## **Minutes**

### **IHC Collector's - Western Canada Chapter 38 Directors Meeting - December 28, 2010**

Teleconference meeting - chairman Darald Marin

- **Attendees Included:**
  - President - Darald Marin
  - First Vice-President - Ken Frank
  - Second Vice President - Bill Johnstone (absent)
  - Membership Secretary - Gerald Parker (absent)
  - Secretary/Treasurer - Marty Nervick
  - Directors:
    - Gary Algot
    - Roy Dietz
    - Gerald Haight
    - Ken Wood
    - Bernie Yakimyshyn
    - Claude Roeland
  - Advisors:
    - Terry Johnson (absent)
    - George Kirkham
    - Terry Grover
    - Harry Helgeson (absent)
    - David Engle (absent)
- Meeting called to order by Darald Marin
- Darald reviewed the highlights of the minutes from the October 12 meeting. Ken motioned that the minutes be accepted - carried.
- Darald expressed his disappointment with the video. The quality of the finished product is very poor - no real coverage of the parade, none of the tractor pull and not enough interviews.
  - Ken F. suggested maybe we just scrap it for a year or two.
  - George K. countered that the video is the history of the club and needs to be continued.
  - Gary will approach the videographer that we have used in Lacombe to see if he would be available for Pincher Creek in 2011. Guy Algot has also offered to help with the editing.
- Darald reported that Barb Bender (wife of Terry Bender) is willing to be membership secretary. They have spoken about using some sort of software that would make the job easier and the data more usable by the club.

- For 2011, memberships will be sent to Marty. Marty will deposit the money and send Gerald the names of paid members so receipts and membership cards can be mailed out. Marty will also send Barb the membership lists so she can start organizing the list and develop a system for maintaining membership records.
- A brief discussion was held around the 2012 show and whether it should be a tag along or stand alone show. The general consensus would be a tag along if a suitable partner can be found. Darald will make some calls and report back.
- Darald has a contact in Olds that he will be in touch with concerning the 2013 show and a possible tag along with the Plowing Championships.
- Bernie photocopied the last newsletter. Ken motioned that the club pay for photocopying costs, Claude seconded the motion - carried.
- Board discussed what the size of the board should be. We started at 9 and are currently at 11. Consensus was that given our large geographic area that 11 is probably more suitable. Bernie motioned that the board size should be amended to be 11, Ken F. seconded - carried.
- The annual election for directors would again be held at our annual show - Pincher Creek 2011. Marty motioned that nominations be allowed from the floor during the show, Roy seconded - carried.
- Bernie provided an update about the website:
  - We would need to increase the bandwidth on our website if we wanted to allow easier uploading of pictures. Current process is to resize pictures which can be a challenge. Ken motioned this item be tabled while Bernie investigates the cost associated with making the change.
  - Recommended that Guy Algot receive compensation for his work on the website. Roy motioned that a \$1000 payment be authorized for his work up to the end of 2010, Gerald H. seconded - carried
    - Marty motioned that for 2011 Guy to receive \$250 compensation, George seconded - carried.
- George provided a brief update on the Pincher Creek show in 2011:
  - First meeting planned for Jan. 11 at his shop
  - Confirmed that there will be tractor pulling (entry fee of \$10)
  - Annual meeting will be at 5pm on Saturday evening
  - Gary Algot will be after supper guest speaker - topic 'Life at the Dealership'
  - Display areas and vendor tables will be in good location along parade route
  - Dave Hillman will assist local announcer
  - Bernie advised that an IH quilt might be made that could be raffled off during the show
  - George will look after making the poster for the show and will have it ready in time for mailing with the April newsletter
  - Darald will arrange for advertising in the Western Producer - probably starting about April 15.

**Meeting adjourned**



**DIRECTORS & ADVISERS:**

**PRESIDENT:** Darald Marin-Radville, SK., (306)869-2262

**VP** Ken Frank - Rimby, AB., (403)843-3276

**2VP** Bill Johnstone - Edmonton, AB., (780)465-5976

**SECRETARY:** Marty Nervick, Craven, Sk., (306) 775-0879

**TREASURER:** Darald Marin-Radville, SK., (306)869-2262

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY:** Gerald Parker-Hudsons Bay,SK. (306)865-3682

**DIRECTORS:**

Claude Roeland, Winnipeg, MB., (204)222-5110

Marty Nervick, Craven, Sk., (306) 775-0879

Gary Algot-Derwent, AB.,(780)741-2115

Gerald Haight-Erskine AB., (403)742-5228

Ken Wood-Barrhead AB (780)674-5073

Roy Dietz - Hanley SK (306)544-2264

Bernie Yakimyshyn, Sherwood Park, AB, (780)464-1030

**ADVISERS:**

Terry Johnson-Campbell River, BC.,(250)923-3118

Terry Grover-Penhold, AB.,(403)886-4988

George Kirkham -Lethbridge AB.(403)381-1617

Harry Helgeson-Southey, SK.,(306)726-4617

Dave Engel-Saskatoon SK(306)242-0575

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE:

Hi Everyone,

Well winter is fully upon us here. Snow and cold. The upside is that it is hopefully half over. We have had more snow here in Northern Alberta than most years in recent memory. With winter in full swing, hopefully everyone is getting into their projects full swing. I'm very close to having my Farmall 450 diesel completed. It is now all painted and just about reassembled. Its been by far the biggest restoration project I have ever tackled. After spending as much time as I have on this tractor, I have to tip my hat to those guys that restore 06/56/66 series tractors. The newer they are, the harder they are to do. Once the 450 is out of the shop, Dad and I have a couple CO-OP's to get done. It's definitely a good way to pass the winter. I hope everyone is enjoying the new and improved newsletter. Bernie has worked real hard to make it better and it is real nice to have some help with it.

Have a great winter!

Until next time,

Ken

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Fellow members...as promised, enclosed this issue is the first Dealerships of the Past article. I hope it inspires some input from members in BC, Saskatchewan and Manitoba regarding old dealerships in their areas as well, but until we do...we'll be highlighting the ones we know about. And again, always willing to accept articles of interest...tips, tricks, oopsies, etc!

Hope you enjoy the read!

Bernie





**Western Canada International Harvester  
Collectors Club Chapter #38  
Membership Renewal Application**

The Western Canada International Harvester Club is dedicated to the collecting, restoration and exhibition of the International Harvester Corporation; its machinery, legacy and contribution to global markets.

Please fill out this form along with submitting the appropriate club dues including fees for the National portion of your membership. Total Single Membership Fee is \$35.00 annually which includes National Fee.

Annual dues are \$20.00 per year. Partner/Spouse \$10.00 Annual National fees are \$15.00  
Both are not pro-rated. **Total Single Fees including Chapter 38 & National are \$35.00 yearly.**

Upon completion, please return including fees payable to:

**IHC Collectors Club Chapter 38**

c/o Marty Nervick  
Rural Route #2  
Craven, SK  
S0G 0W0

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dues Submitted: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
                    First                                      Middle                                      Last

Partner/Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_  
                                    First                                      Middle                                      Last

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Province \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

We collect the following IH Products; Tractors \_\_\_ Trucks \_\_\_ Equipment \_\_\_ Tools \_\_\_

Memorabilia \_\_\_ Toys \_\_\_ Dealer Literature \_\_\_ Other IHC \_\_\_ Use back page to list items

Office Use: Membership Number _____
Membership start date _____
Membership fees begin _____ Membership fees end _____

Membership includes Chapter #38 Newsletters along with subscription to National Chapter's Magazine.

**Privacy Policy**

**Chapter 38 will not sell or disclose your personal information to outside sources requesting any information including your name, address, or email address or as required by law. Your personal information will be shared with the International Harvester Collectors Worldwide located in Park Ridge, IL, USA. No credit information is collected.**

**Your privacy is important to Chapter 38.**

**By signing this membership renewal application form you agree to the Chapter 38 Privacy Policy.**

**Updates to this policy will be included in the Policy Book as revisions occur.**

**Your membership card will be mailed out upon approval and acceptance of payment.**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please feel free to include additional cash donations toward assisting the new Chapter with set up costs.**

# *Dealerships of the past...*

## The Algot Family And Their Three-Generation International Harvester Dealership

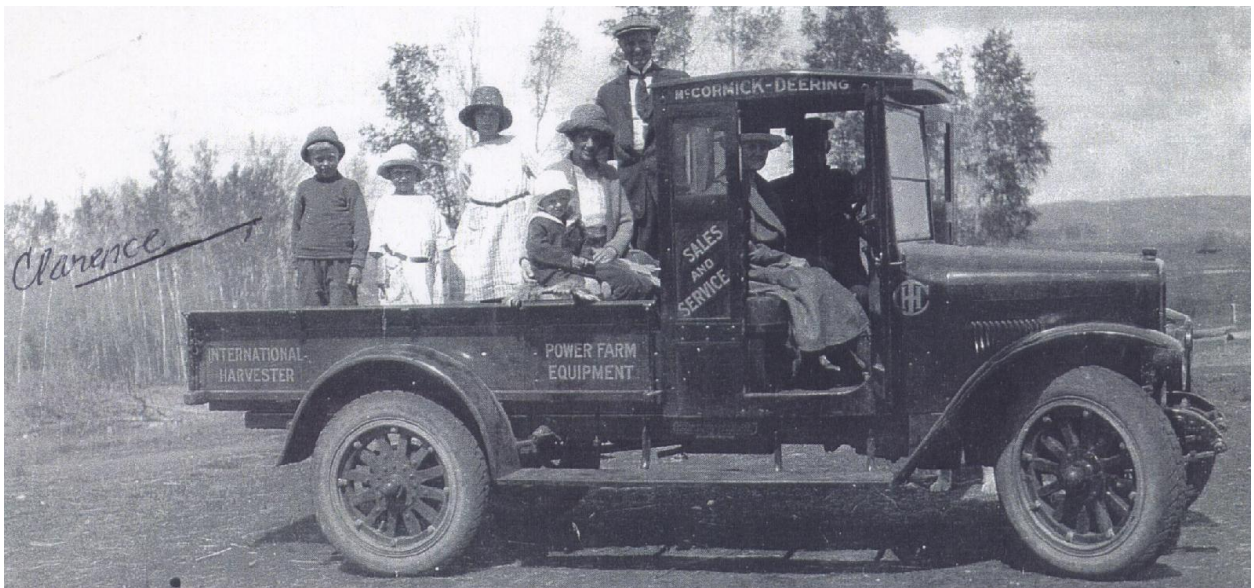
The fascinating history of this tri-generation IH dealership began in 1902, when pioneer Gustaf (Gus) J. Algot arrived as a young man in Alberta from his native Sweden, looking for opportunity, and ready to make his mark on the world. His travels took him to Vermilion in 1908, where he took homestead papers on a quarter of land 30 miles to the north, which he named Angle Lake after the nearby body of water.

He proceeded to farm that quarter, and set up a large sawmill operation to process the trees that he cleared. He was building his estate, and was ready to settle down. Two years later, Gustaf married Anna Johnson of Waterglen, Alberta. Four children soon joined the family: Ellen (1911), Clarence (1913), Agnes (1916), Lillian (1921).

Gustaf was an entrepreneur; he saw a need and filled it. He obtained a large head of horses for re-sale, built his first general mercantile store, and became the postmaster at Angle Lake. He purchased a 12-horse circle drive threshing machine, and that year, so many neighbours brought stooks that they threshed until Christmas.



Always on the lookout for a business venture, he saw a need for farm equipment, and from 1921 to 1923 he promoted IHC products with the use of his first truck, International's little "Red Baby".



Gustaf began to wonder if this is what he should do for the rest of his life, so he decided to “take a break”. He camperized the truck, loaded the family and headed for the West Coast, leaving the farm in the hands of capable friends.



*Mr & Mrs G. J. Algot and Family  
on their way to the West Coast*

One year later, he returned to find out that the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) was headed west on the Lloydminster-Willingdon line. He seized the opportunity to build his second store 6 miles south along the new line. After much debate amongst early merchants and residents, he asked the CPR to pick a name for the new village. They responded with the name “Derwent” after the lake country in England, similar to the many lakes in the local area.

Development of farming in the region of Angle Lake was hampered by the distance to market and therefore, farmers only grew what they could use themselves or feed to livestock. It was too far to haul grain and other produce all the way to Vermilion to the railway. Although the horse was the prevalent farm power source, interest was growing in IHC products, and the prospect of having a line of implements to compliment the Algot hardware store began to take shape.



By 1927, the railroad arrived from the east and within a short time the International Harvester Co. symbol appeared as 15-30 tractors arrived by rail from North Battleford and were sold in the district of Derwent by G.J. Algot – General Merchant. Almost by miracle, land which had been idle or grazed was put under cultivation. Some 55,000 acres were broken in 1929 and another 55,000 the following years. Farmers turned from horse farming to tractor farming and the productivity of the country increased immensely. The village of Derwent mushroomed.



The contract with IHC was officially signed in January 1928. The roof was raised from the store, a second story was put in place, and the Algot family moved from the farm into Derwent. Gus Algot became Derwent's first Mayor, a position he held for 10 years. The village prospered and grew. The need for farm equipment was evident – soon there are five dealerships on Main Street. The largely Ukrainian populace were hard working and not deterred by the depression. International farm equipment and trucks continued to roll into the Derwent district and business was good.



Gus' son Clarence A. Algot completed his university training in Edmonton and returned to Derwent to join his father's business in 1937. His sister Agnes married George McConnell and Gus had him in the hardware end while Clarence operated the implement part as the new Algot and McConnell. Throughout the 30's, various tractor shows and schools for interested farmers were held at their dealership on Main Street.



G.J. Algot on a sales call, 1934, on top of truck holding his shoes.



Clarence married Pearl Kortzman of Edmonton via Kingman, Alberta, in 1937. They had two children, son Gary (1940) and daughter Siri (1941).

Soon after, Gus Algot moved to Edmonton to enjoy his retirement, passing in 1977.

The need was evident for expanded space, so in 1948, a second building was put up on the implement side. The equipment and trucks were evident on Main Street Derwent with KBs, Farmalls, W6 and WD9s on display.

In the 1950's, Derwent was busy and farm equipment was on the move. If you took your bath a little late on Saturday night and came to town after 9 p.m., you wouldn't find a place to park on Main Street. Self propelled equipment was on display and the SP161 and SP127 were well received. L130's and L150's were hauling the grain. Clarence was so busy that he had to hire sales and parts staff as he attended to service calls.



Clarence headed to Chicago for the introduction of the 460-560-660 tractor line in 1958, and by 1961 had sold approximately thirty 560's. Time was marching on - George McConnell retired and the hardware side of the business was sold off. The new business and Clarence go solo as Algot Implements Ltd. in 1962.



Son Gary completed his University training in 1968 and after a brief encounter working for the provincial government, felt lucky to return home to go into business with his father.



Gustaf

Clarence

Guy

Gary

Gary married Sharon Cavin of Missoula, Montana and had two sons, Guy (1968) and Clint (1970).

Gary was off to various Service Schools with their service employees. The business was very successful with the “06 – “56 line of tractors, the pickups, Scouts, Loadstar trucks and 403-503 combines.

The “66 line showed up in the 1970’s and led to the “86 series and Gary was off again to Chicago for Axial Flow combine introduction and to Kansas City for tractor introduction. There were various trips with customers to tractor factories in East Moline and Rock Island, Illinois. Back home the demo shows were regular as well as the pancake breakfasts and other Company promotions. Sales trips to various cities south were well received as they become combined with winter holidays.



The 1980’s were exciting with the “88 line - good looks and potent power train. The 2+2 was an amazing use of 4 wheel drive.

The fall of 1984 arrived with an ominous tone - in November, Gary attends a meeting in Dallas, Texas which clearly showed something was not right in the business world of International Harvester. Tenneco Inc. of Houston, in an effort to save J.I. Case from going down the drain has combined Case and IH to form a new company.

And then in January 1985 the “suits” arrived. On that fateful January day 4 men arrived and changed the family business as it was known. Two from the Edmonton office and two from Racine, Wisconsin indicated to Clarence and Gary that they would be out of business.

Excerpt from the Calgary Herald, January 17, 1985 – Staff writer Bob Beaty:

#### FARM DEALERS FORCED OUT

Some of Alberta’s approximately 90 International Harvester and Case farm equipment dealers started out the new year with a whimper – they were told to get out of business.

A task force from Houston-based Tenneco Inc., owners of the newly combined Case and International equipment companies, gave some of the dealers a must-sign contract this month that would remove their right to sell the equipment lines.

“We’ve been in business for 57 years, so it’s a bit of a bad deal” says Clarence Algot, 72 year old owner of Algot Implements Ltd. “They just told us there were too many dealers in our area and we had to go”.

Algot’s business is in the small town of Derwent, 190 kilometres east of Edmonton between the larger towns of Vermilion and St. Paul, where there are competing International Harvester Co equipment dealers.

Algot says he was given until January 23 to sign the contract or lose out on a \$10,000 closing bonus.

Also included in the contract is \$25,000 to cover good will and dealership assets tied to the International name, such as signs. In addition, Tenneco will buy back current parts and equipment at “cost plus freight” and pay a portion of non-refundable and used parts.

“All in all, it doesn’t seem like such a bad deal for me”, Algot says, “but I’m going to retire soon. It doesn’t leave anything for my son (Gary, 44) who will want to stay in business. Maybe he can pick up another (equipment) line but in this market that’s not so easy”.

Algot says he won’t sign the contract until he talks to other dealers at the Farm Equipment Dealers Association of Alberta-British Columbia this weekend in Edmonton.

Bill McCulloch, secretary manager of the association, says that judging by the phone calls he has received, it appears the bulk of those given take-it-or-leave-it contracts are International dealers.

The business carried on by obtaining the needed parts for the large customer base in the Derwent trading area by entering into a parts availability agreement with NORSASK Farm Equipment of North Battleford, Saskatchewan.

Clarence retired in 1987 after 50 years in the business. The big “C” took him in June 1989. Gary and Sharon continued to provide parts and service to their many customers.

With the sale of the building and property, the end came in 2008.





**Gary Algot**  
**International Harvester Dealer**  
**1968 to 2008**

2010 In December, the parts department as it existed in 1948 has been reproduced on the Algot property back at Angle Lake where G.J. Algot began the business. If you wish to stop by and talk I.H., come out in the summer for a "Harvester Afternoon". See the Chapter 38 International Harvester Collector's Club website for details at [www.ihc38.com](http://www.ihc38.com)  
Gary and Sharon Algot

